



ABILENE WRITERS GUILD

JUNE 2022 NEWSLETTER

KEEPING MEMBERS IN TOUCH

ABILENE WRITERS GUILD.ORG

KTALLEY1969@GMAIL.COM

HEART JOURNALING

We are all on a wonderful journey called life. Part of the wonder of this journey is that it is always changing. Everything has a beginning and an end. What is here one day, may be gone the next. Some of the changes we are called to make are very difficult; even good changes can create difficulty in adjustment.

As I step into a new role as a member of AWG and its board please allow me to introduce myself so that you will know a little more about the one who will be serving as your president. Since I was a young teen, I have had a passion for painting pictures using words. Because I have always been fascinated by the way authors used words to do what I enjoyed doing, I was an avid reader.

My younger years were spent on a farm near Abilene, living in the area until my high school graduation when I moved to Amarillo to further my education. The Christmas after my 13th birthday I received a journal, and for the next five years I expressed my feelings using a pen and paper. Through the years, at different intervals, I would find myself retreating with a book, paper and pen. I loved writing letters, and tried to make them as interesting and beautiful as I could. Some who shared my “word” passion and received my letters began to encourage me to enter some magazine contests.

Through entering various contests, opportunities began to open up for me to write articles for small monthly publications. For more than 20 years I served as the editor/author of *Femininsights*, a women’s section of a Christian publication. My articles appeared for a time in **Heartline Magazine** a daily electronic publication. The blessings I enjoyed in all of creation overwhelmed me and I felt God teaching me in all of them. Finding it very difficult to say with my tongue what I was feeling in my heart, I discovered great satisfaction in words flowing rather easily onto paper. That discovery lead to the writing of daily devotionals for **Forming Faith Foundations**.

The publishing of my books, **Beyond the Rain** and **Don’t Hurry the Sunrise** is the realization of a life-long dream. Each was a result of journaling through two very difficult times in my life. The dream was for publication of a much different genre. When asked by peers, what I write, I reply, “Whatever is on my heart.” For those of you who Journal; good for you. For those of you who haven’t, I would encourage you to begin. It is a road that leads to beautiful places.

Kay Talley-Leach
AWG President



Carolyn Dycus: BRAG: AWG is 53!

Lou Mouglin: BRAG: Sent in the manuscript for my 2nd comics history book.

SAG: Hassling with the publisher about copyrights.

David Dodge: SAG: Seems all I have are done sags nowadays, but I'm hoping and looking forward to the program at the July meeting. See you all then.

Coy Roper: BRAG: My book "Ecclesiastes: A Document Designed to Disturb," published by Cypress Press, is now available.

Carla Kerr: BRAG: I am working on a poem about ghost towns to be put to music by our acting group.

Debbie Gordon: BRAG: My caption won in a contest and was printed in a national magazine.

Ariana Rodriquez: BRAG: I have been able to catch up on watching Marvel movies recently, I've been wanting to do that for the past few years. SAG: I haven't had the motivation to write on my story for awhile. :(

Chuck Webber: BRAG: I am sending the June contest piece I wrote to the Baytown historical group to see whether they like it as is or would like a lengthier version.

Ron Davis: BRAG: Went to InkersCon in Dallas, met a ton of authors, learned a lot of great marketing and craft things for authors. Since 80% of the authors were romance, I've now got two romance novels in my reading queue.

Suanna Davis: BRAG: Major rewrite of first half of novel finished with positive feedback for changes from critique group.



Carla Kerr: READING: I am currently reading, *Nightmare Scenario* by Yasmeen Abutaleb and Damian Paletta of the Washington Post.

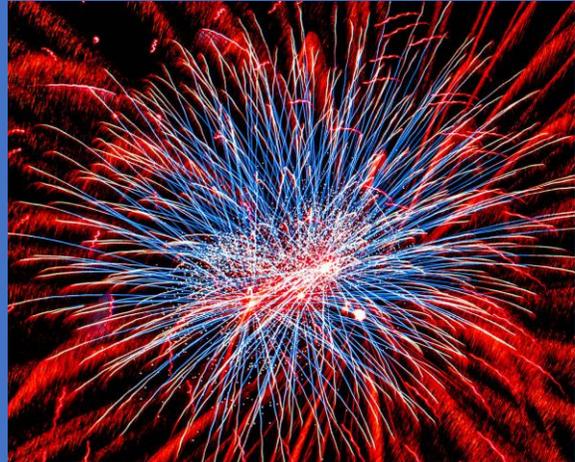
Carolyn Dycus: READING: *The Judge's List* by John Grisham..

Ariana Rodriquez: READING: *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Suanna Davis: READING: *Mating in Captivity*, a marriage relationship book by psychotherapist Esther Perel.

Our Officers

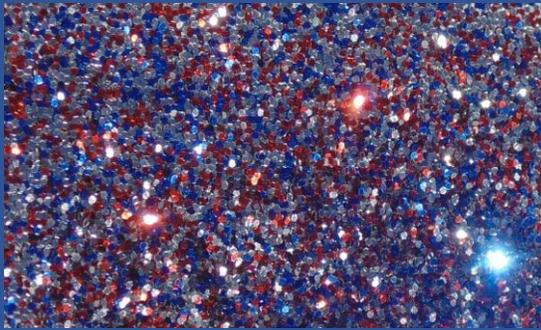
President: Kay Talley-Leach	(2024)
Executive VP: Darla McCloud	(2023)
Program VP: Sharon Ellison	(2024)
Secretary: Linda Gordon	(2023)
Treasurer: Gail McMillan	(2023)
Board Member: Chuck Weber	(2023)
Board Member: Mary Berry	(2024)
Board Member: Ron Davis	(2024)
Alt. Board Member: Carolyn Dycus	(2023)
Monthly Contest Coordinator: Linda Gordon	



Our Life Members

*Stewart Caffey, Nancy Masters
Alice Greenwood, David Dodge
Betty Thomason*

Members gain the status by gift from the membership as a whole, by paying a one-time fee of \$600, by receiving the honor as a gift from another, or by reaching the age of 90 while a member of AWG



DUES ARE DUE

\$25.00 Single membership

\$35.00 family membership

Please mail your dues to

Gail McMillan

419 Meadow Ln

Abilene, TX 79602

Or Give to Gail at the June meeting

If you joined AWG since March 2022 your dues come due next year



July Contest

SUBJECT-

HOME/ TRAVEL

Poetry 50 lines or less

Fiction - 1000 words or less

Deadline - July 12

MEMBERS ONLY CONTEST

MAY WINNERS

1st PLACE

Ron Davis - Tomoe's Birth

2nd Place

Chuck Anderson

Mobeetic

AM

Coy Roper

The Preacher Takes a Wife





**AWG MONTHLY
MEETING
THURSDAY JUNE 23
PROGRAM PRESENTER**

SEAN KING

Author of Young Adult books
and member of Cisco Writers
Club. He and his wife are
owners of Waverly's, a popular
Cisco Coffee and gift shop.



**Fun Writing
Opportunity**

Poetry Prize

\$15,000

**Deadline – July 15,
2022**

Entry Fee - \$25

Email Address

tim@rattle.com

<http://rattle.com/prize/about>

2022 Members Only Contest

Exclusive: For current members of AWG only. All entries eligible for Annual Contest. No fees!

Judging: Judges are professionals who may or may not choose to critique entries. Judge's decisions are final. If there are fewer than four entries per category in double category months, categories will be combined. Six entries per month are required for judging.

Prizes: \$20 first prize and \$15 second prize. You are encouraged to attend the meetings to pick up your check. Otherwise, they will be mailed to the physical address provided.

Pay careful attention to all guidelines

Deadline: Submissions may be sent any time after the 12th of the previous month, but no later than the 12th of the contest month.

Enter by Email Only: Send documents as attachments and in Word format only. Subject Line should state: AWG Contest and "Month" (e.g. January). Entries will be returned to the email on coversheet. **Warning:** some devices may not transmit document correctly, thus disqualifying entry. AWG will respond within five days. It is entrant's responsibility to verify and resend.

Send to: awg.entry@yahoo.com

Mix & Match: Submit up to 3 entries per month. Enter poetry, prose, or both. Blended themes are acceptable. Must be original work unpublished at deadline (includes Internet posts).

**** You may send up to 3 entries and accompanying cover sheets in the same email, but all cover sheets and entries must be separate attachments.****

Cover Sheet Format: Top left: author's name, physical address (to mail prize check), telephone number, and email. Top right: Chosen month of entry, word count for Prose and Flash entries or line count for poetry. (Do not count the title when determining line or word counts.) Title of entry should be centered midway down the page.

Entry Format: Do not include author name on any page. Minimum one-inch margins; prose double spaced; poetry single or double spaced. First page: center title at top, double space then start text. Number subsequent pages at the top center or top right.

2022

MONTH	THEME	CATEGORY
JANUARY	No contest this month	Extra writing time for February
FEBRUARY	Winter, Nature, Milestones	Poetry – 50 lines or less Non-Fiction – 1,000 words or less
MARCH	Mandatory prompt words: tear, color, wind, sort, drift	Flash entry: Fiction or Poetry 100 max using 5 prompt words
APRIL	National Poetry Month NO THEME	Rhymed or Unrhymed Poetry 50 lines or less
MAY	National Short Story Month NO THEME	Fiction - 1,000 words or less
JUNE	AWG Non-Fiction Month NO THEME	Non-Fiction - 1,000 words or less
JULY	Home, Travel	Poetry – 50 lines or less Fiction – 1,000 words or less
AUGUST	Mandatory prompt words: project, double, shine, top, way	Flash entry: Fiction or Poetry 100 max using 5 prompt words

Flash Fiction/Poetry use 5 mandatory prompt words, or close form and meaning, like: Oil = oiled, oils, oiling, oiler, oily not spoil or foil; boat = lifeboat; speak = unspeakable, not spoken; place = placement; defect = defection or defective.